

Eddy Current.

WM. H. MULLANE, Publisher.
EDDY, N. M.
PASTURE AND FARM.

From many sections come favorable reports of the corn crop.

Grass is plentiful and corn prospects bright about San Diego.

Corn and cotton are doing splendidly around Blooming Grove.

Jim Dale has made three shipments of cattle to St. Louis recently from Bonham.

A Paris gardener reports that potato bugs are eating his plants and doing great damage.

At Lindale, Smith county, from one to two carloads of strawberries are being shipped daily.

During the month of April 820 carloads of cattle were shipped from San Angelo to the Indian territory.

Sorghum is pronounced by practical men to be one of the most profitable forage crops known in Texas.

George Powers, one of the most prominent horse breeders of west Texas, died at Raymond of German measles.

The recent six-hour rain at Amarillo has caused grain to grow rapidly and raised the spirits of the stockmen considerably.

Cattle dealers at Bonham report that cattle in great numbers are dying of blackleg in the Indian Territory, across Red river, not far from Bonham.

A good rain fell at Granbury, the only one this year that put water in the branches and tanks. It will do some good and make the grain of make more than half a crop of wheat.

Two train loads of cattle, consisting of sixteen cars each, were shipped from Corpus Christi to Red Fork, I. T. They were put on grazing lands near Red Fork.

The finest rains known in the vicinity of Del Rio for ten years fell recently. The rain extended west as far as Devil's River and east nearly to Standard.

Parties in from the Indian and Oklahoma territories report good seasons and flattering crop prospects. Cattle-men especially are in good spirits and say cattle are doing splendidly.

Home-raised vegetables at Denison are supplying the local market altogether now and some are being shipped north. Despite the late spring and bad weather, spring gardens came in early.

Something like 1,200,000 horses are owned in Texas, but a great number are of little value. Texas soil and climate are well adapted to raising the finest breeds and great progress is being made.

In the strawberry districts of this state this berry is fast ripening, and a great many carloads are being sent to various parts in the north and east, while quite a number are being shipped to various points in this state.

A fine rain fell at Sanger that insures a fine Irish potato crop and all garden stuff. Corn will be advanced to the "shooting" stage without more rain. Cotton on many farms is up and looks fine. The rain pulverized a great deal of freshly-sodded land that can now be put in cotton. The whole country looks beautiful and prosperous.

The breeds of cattle raised around Graham now are greatly improved over the old-time cow. Many of the ranches are stocked with thoroughbred Herefords and Durhams. Taking the situation, all in all, the country seems upon a basis of substantial prosperity.

The Cotton Belt railway is hauling many carloads of strawberries from eastern Texas to northern cities.

Messrs. Richardson and Albough of San Angelo have returned from a trip through the sheep country south and west. They viewed about 125,000 sheep in good condition, though not yet ready to buy for shipment. The range of grass and weeds is in good condition, and the rains make the outlook full of promise.

A fine rain, the first since December, fell in Armstrong county, several days ago, putting a good season in the ground. Early crops were suffering some on account of the continued dry weather, but now they will come out all right and the pastures will be fine in a short time. From reports from the country surrounding the rain was general. Farmers are planting large crops and are happy over the prospects.

W. A. Pease shipped out twenty-one cars of cattle from Italy, destined for Cuba via Galveston. He purchased the cattle there from E. B. Harrell. He had 600 fed there this season. He shipped two cars, the remainder bunch to St. Louis.

A train load of 600 head of beef cattle from Dublin, Tex., where they have been fattened on cotton seed meal, passed through Fort Worth, several days ago, en route to Pensacola, Fla., from which place they will be shipped to Cuba at once.

The House.

Mr. Childs called up in the house Monday the motion offered by Mr. Bailey some days ago to reconsider the vote by which the senate bill to define and punish unjust discriminations by officers, agents, servants and employees and receivers, their officers, servants, agents and employees of railroad companies in this state, was passed to a third reading.

The discussion of the motion to reconsider developed the fact that some members favored eliminating the provision which authorizes convictions under the act upon the unsupported evidence of an accomplice or participant. The motion to reconsider was tabled on motion of Mr. Blount.

Mr. Kittrell offered an amendment to provide that any person receiving rebates or drawbacks, or receiving any preference such as is forbidden by the act to be given, shall be held to be guilty of violating its provisions and shall be punished the same as the person who allows such rebate.

On motion of Mr. Shannon the amendment was tabled.

The bill was then passed finally in the exact form in which it came from the senate.

A resolution was adopted extending the courtesy of the house to Congressman R. C. DeGraffenried.

On motion of Mr. Ratcliffe the order of business was suspended and the house took up and passed without amendment the senate bill to increase the occupation tax on tenpin alleys from \$100 to \$250.

On motion of Mr. Morrow the order of business was suspended and the house took up his bill to impose a tax of 2 per cent on incomes exceeding \$2000.

An amendment by Mr. Smith of Grayson to strike out the limitation of the incomes to be taxed to sums over and above \$200 was tabled on motion of Mr. Smith of Collin.

An amendment by Mr. Phillips of Lampasas to apply the tax to incomes of more than \$20, and a substitute by Mr. Crawford to apply it to incomes of more than \$1000 were tabled.

A motion by Mr. Crawford to indefinitely postpone the bill was defeated—yeas 7, nays 79.

Mr. Bridges offered an amendment to apply the tax to incomes of more than \$1000, and Mr. Peery as a substitute proposed to make the tax 1 per cent instead of 2 per cent. Both were defeated.

The bill was ordered engrossed—yeas 33, nays 3.

Mr. Maxwell offered a resolution to allow the use of the representative hall for a reception by the university students during the commencement exercises in June. The vote on the resolution developed the absence of a quorum and the house took a recess to 3 o'clock.

When the house met after recess Mr. Barbee called up the report of the conference committee of the occupation tax law which imposes a tax on physicians. The report recommends that the house recede from its amendment to the bill which proposed to also exempt lawyers from the tax.

Messrs. Shooshire and Grogan spoke against the adoption of the report, holding that there was no better reason for exempting physicians than reason for exempting lawyers.

Messrs. Lloyd and Beatty favored the adoption of the report. The report was adopted—yeas 69, nays 17.

The house bill by Mr. Little to amend article 33 of the revised statutes relating to changes in the lines between school districts so as to divide more equally the distance between the two schools affected by the change, was laid before the house as a special order. The bill passed to engrossment.

Women's Press Convention.

Temple, Tex., May 16.—The Texas Woman's Press association convened here yesterday in the sixth annual session. The programme covers three days.

The president, Mrs. M. R. Walton of Austin; Mrs. M. O. Deane, recording secretary; Fort Worth; Mrs. F. B. Robinson, corresponding secretary; Huntsville; and Mrs. I. M. Julian, treasurer, San Marcos, were present at the opening of the session.

A complimentary concert was given last night.

Smelting Plant.

El Paso, Tex., May 16.—A New York company has purchased a site here and will erect thereon a smelting and ore refining plant to cost \$300,000.

Forty-three students graduated in medicine, seven in pharmacy and eight in nursing at the medical department of the University of Texas in Galveston.

Druid Attempt.

San Antonio, Tex., May 16.—A brutal attempt at infanticide was revealed here yesterday when a live female infant was discovered in a dry cesspool corner of Leigh and Middle streets in the heart of the city. The baby had apparently not received medical attention. The child must have lain where it was found some twelve hours or more. There is no clue.

The Arkansas Central railway was formally opened to traffic on the 15th by a barbecue at Paris, Ark.

Pension Bill.

Austin, Tex., May 15.—Comptroller Finley sends out the following:

To whom it may concern: Public attention is invited to an act approved May 12, 1899, known as the Confederate pension bill. Under the provisions of this act all persons shall begin on the 1st day of October and April after the filing and establishing the application and are made payable quarterly, the first payment being provided for Oct. 1, 1899. The act carries an appropriation of \$100,000 for the first year and \$150,000 for the second year, and fixes a minimum pension of \$5 per month to each applicant who can and does conform to the requirements of the law.

In the event the appropriation above referred to shall prove insufficient to pay in full said pensions, no deficiency can be created against the state, but each pensioner will receive only his pro rata according to the amount appropriated.

The act makes it the duty of the comptroller to prepare and furnish to the county judges of the several counties of the state necessary blank applications for the use of applicants. As soon as the necessary forms can be prepared and the blanks printed they will be transmitted, together with a copy of the law, to each county judge in the state. Special care will be exercised in the preparation of these forms, and I beg the indulgence of all interested persons until the forms and blanks can be completed, with the assurance that they will be furnished as soon as possible and in ample time for applications to be filed before the 1st of October next, beginning of the first quarter.

I will not attempt in this notice to advise as to the detailed requirements of the law in making proof, who is eligible, etc., all this will follow, who is above stated as soon as the blanks can be prepared.

The adoption of the constitutional amendment in November last authorizing the state to pension ex-Confederate soldiers and the enactment of the law conforming thereto is intended as a recognition in some measure of the service rendered by the patriotic, gallant and brave Confederate soldier, in defense of home, honor and constitutional liberty, who now in his advancing state to pension ex-Confederate in a condition that this action on the part of his state government is appreciated and acceptable.

I shall follow the strict letter of the law in passing upon all pension claims and the re-operation of county judges and commissioners' courts, whose duty it will be to pass first upon all applications, is earnestly requested, and confidently expected.

All ex-Confederate soldiers also should take an interest in the applications filed in their respective counties; efforts thus combined will materially aid the worthy in securing the benefits provided under the law and will tend greatly to prevent and detect attempts at fraud.

R. W. FINLEY, Comptroller.

Snake Bitten.

Denison, Tex., May 15.—A. H. Heath, who came in from Dripping Springs, stated that George Odell, a prominent farmer living southeast of the city, was bitten by a copperhead snake, one of the most poisonous of the snake family. Mr. Odell was getting some corn out of his crib when a snake that had crawled up in the corn struck him on the finger. His wrist and arm swelled rapidly and Mr. Odell suffered great pain, but it is believed there will be no serious consequences.

People's Party Committee.

Dallas, Tex., May 15.—The state executive committee of the People's party met here Saturday. A resolution instructing the delegates to the meeting at Kansas City of the National Reform Press association and the national organization committee of the People's party to vote as a unit against the endorsement of any person or persons or candidates of said party for president and vice-president of the United States was unanimously adopted. A number left for Kansas City that night.

Seriously Stabbed.

Sherman, Tex., May 15.—Ellis El Court, an Assyrian, while sitting on the front of a box car at his place of residence, was assaulted and seriously stabbed in the face. The wound is several inches in length, and the cheek bone was cut also. Emen El Court, a cousin of the wounded man, started to the assistance of his kinsman, but was compelled to flee, and was closely pursued for two blocks or more by the man who did the stabbing.

Created a Sensation.

Dallas, Tex., May 15.—A decided sensation was caused here over the indictment by the grand jury of C. H. Alexander on the charge of being accessory to the burning of the Eakins residence and Aldermen Lincicum and Wolfson, charged with accepting bribes. All three were arrested and gave bond. Alexander in the sum of \$5000, and the two aldermen in \$2500 each.

Eugene V. Debs lectured at Dallas on the 14th.

Passed House.

In the senate Friday Patterson secured the adoption of a resolution providing for sine die adjournment of the legislature Tuesday, May 23, at 12 o'clock.

On motion of Morris the senate concurred in house amendments to his bill empowering grand juries to summon witnesses to be in attendance on the following term of the court, so as to prevent witnesses from getting away between the sessions of the grand jury and the court.

Stafford secured engrossment of his bill amending the statutes relating to forged instruments.

Miller's bill authorizing the summoning of jurors in special venire cases by postal cards was passed finally under a suspension of the rules.

Decker's house bill validating and quieting titles to public free school, university and asylum lands sold prior to Jan. 1, 1899, to provide for patents and to prescribe limitation for bringing suits for the recovery of such land, passed finally.

Johnson secured consideration of his bill on third reading appropriating \$15,000 for the construction of an orphan's home at Corsicana for colored children.

Davidson offered an amendment to strike out the enacting clause. Lost—yeas 9, nays 12. The bill passed finally.

Lloyd secured final passage of his bill to grant leave to G. W. Burkitt of Anderson county to bring suit against the state to redeem from forfeiture and resale a section of school land in Hardeman county.

Sebastian secured final passage of his bill correcting the statute relating to commissioners' courts appointing health officers for unincorporated towns.

Gough secured consideration of the Grubbs industrial school bill.

Davidson moved a call of the senate on the passage of the bill to a third reading, but the absentees were excused, and the bill passed to a third reading by a vote of 16 to 6.

Bill adding parlor cars to special coach law passed.

The special order was laid before the senate. It was the bill providing that where there are no banking facilities in a county, that a sworn certificate of deposit in a reputable bank in another county shall be accepted as cash by the commissioners' court.

On motion of Mr. Childs, a resolution was adopted by the house at the beginning of the morning session, providing that the anti-trust bill should be taken up and its consideration continued from day to day until disposed of.

The anti-trust bill was laid before the house.

Mr. Smith of Grayson offered a substitute providing that all individuals, companies or corporations transacting business contrary to the provisions of the act within this state or elsewhere are hereby prohibited from instituting and maintaining any character of suit in any court in the state. Adopted.

Grogan's and Vaughan's amendments were adopted and bill passed—16 to 3.

Caused by Storm.

Sherman, Tex., May 13.—Thursday night near Van Alstyne a neat cottage residence belonging to F. L. Spurlen, but occupied by W. J. Dalton, was destroyed by fire. The building was valued at \$600. Just yet the loss on household effects can not be estimated. There was no insurance.

During the night the likelihood of rough weather became apparent and the family went to the stormhouse. After the wind and rain had subsided they emerged to find the building on fire and in a fair way to be destroyed. Some of the household effects were saved.

Monument to a Soldier.

Tyler, Tex., May 13.—A handsome marble tablet to the memory of Joshua M. Brooks has just been erected in the cemetery at Troupe, this county, by the former officers and men of company K, fourth Texas infantry, United States volunteers. Capt. Hampson Gary will have the lot inclosed by an ornamental iron fence.

Mr. Brooks died of pneumonia while the fourth Texas was in winter quarters at San Antonio.

An Accident.

Paris, Tex., May 13.—During the fireworks exhibition last night a long section of the circus seats fell, loaded down with thousands of people.

No one was seriously hurt. Delegates Pitt Turner, George King and Martin and several others were bruised.

I. F. Baker of Paris had his jaw broken.

Seriously Shot.

McKinney, Tex., May 13.—While toying with what he supposed to be an empty pistol, a young son of Esquire E. E. Holt of Blue Ridge, this county, very seriously, if not fatally, shot himself. He first snapped the pistol at his brother, but it failed to go off, he then turned it on himself and pulled the trigger again, when the discharge occurred, passing through his body.

The famous Fair Will case has come up in court again at San Francisco.

Legislative Work.

On motion of Potter the senate Thursday concurred in house amendments to bill by Lewis relating to the submission of special issues to the jury.

The pending business, the Grubbs industrial school bill, was suspended on motion of Patterson, for the consideration of house bill by Robertson of Bell, empowering cities and towns incorporated under the general act to regulate and fix the rates, charges, etc., by corporations having public franchises and furnishing utilities to the public.

Atlee moved to substitute the adverse minority for the favorable majority report.

Patterson, Miller and Goss objected to the motion.

The bill was killed by having the adverse minority report adopted.

Industrial school bill came up, but no final action had.

Atlee offered resolution recalling from the house the senate anti-trust bill for the purpose of correcting an error in the engrossment of the bill. The error consists of the omission to incorporate in the bill the amendment to make the law effective Jan. 31, 1900. Lost.

On motion of Dibrell the senate refused to concur in the house amendments to the bill appropriating \$100,000 to pay claims incurred in the mobilization of the Texas troops in the late war. The act of congress requires the claims to be audited at Washington, while the house amendment provides that the claims shall be audited in Austin, which is a direct conflict. As a free conference committee on this bill the chair appointed Dibrell, Atlee, Patterson, Burns and Wayland.

Kittrell's house bill authorizing the admission to record and evidence in the courts of this state of duly certified copies of all deeds and other instruments of conveyance of land which have been duly registered or recorded in other states or in the republic of Mexico, but which laws of such states and republic require to be retained in the deed or notarial archives of such states, was slightly amended and passed finally under a suspension of the rules.

On motion of Mr. Barbee the order of business was suspended and the house took up and passed the senate bill to amend article 617b, chapter 12, title 18, of the revised civil statute, relating to the abolishment of municipal corporations.

On motion of Mr. Bailey the senate anti-trust bill was taken up.

An amendment by Mr. Bailey was adopted providing that the act shall take effect on Jan. 31, 1900.

Mr. Shropshire offered as a substitute for the pending bill the original house bill (the Arkansas statute).

Mr. Thomas of Fannin offered an amendment to change portions of the bill. Went over.

On motion of Mr. Monroe the free conference committee report on the senate bill to amend the act of June 23, 1897, to regulate and limit the expenditures of state, county and local public school funds and regulate treasurer's reports thereof, was adopted. The bill allows county treasurers a commission of one-half of 1 per cent for receiving and one-half of 1 per cent for disbursing school funds.

Junior Mechanics.

Grapevine, Tex., May 12.—The Texas state council J. O. U. A. M. met at Grapevine on the 9th and 10th.

The following officers were elected: N. B. Moore of Fort Worth, state counselor; Will Hornbeck of Bonham, state vice counselor; B. R. Wall of Grapevine, state secretary; W. H. Collins of Cleburne, state treasurer; W. C. Hudson of Galveston, state warden; Willis Pierson of Emory, state conductor; C. H. Roark of Denton, state inside sentinel; George P. Ball of Bonham, state outside sentinel; A. P. Parks, chaplain.

Terrible Tornado.

Eagle Pass, Tex., May 12.—The Hon-do coal mine, 100 miles south of here in Mexico, was visited Wednesday by a terrible tornado, dealing death and destruction in its path.

The upper story of the general office, hotel, depot and pump-house were blown away. A string of freight cars were carried several hundred yards out into the prairie.

Eight bodies have been recovered and others are supposed to be in the ruins.

State Fireman's association transacted much business on the 11th inst. at Paris.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union convened in Denison on the 9th.

Palestine Fire.

Palestine, Tex., May 12.—A half-block of business houses were destroyed by fire yesterday morning. Mistrot Bros. & Co., dry goods; Max Chotiner grocery company; A. Kohn, saloon; I. Holborn, grocery; Ben Landau, saloon; Leo Davidson, saloon; John Presson, grocery; and Jim Johnson, barber, were sufferers. The loss of buildings and fully \$75,000, partly covered by insurance.

OPPORTUNITIES IN CHINA.

Yast Field for American Trade That Is Still Almost Untouched.

At the present time American commerce in China should be more than that of the shopkeeping kind. There are new opportunities for vast speculations and strong syndicates. This is the period of concessions, of organizing for opening up the resources of that large empire. This is more than selling behind the counter. And here Americans are liable to lose a magnificent opportunity. Along with the increased political influence of European countries have come increased commercial privileges. Our political interests and our commercial men have disliked the Chinese so much that they have failed to seize—even to see—the new openings in China at the most opportune hour. Russia has secured both railroad and mining concessions in Manchuria. Germany has secured the same in Shantung. England has secured mining concessions in Shanai, and other privileges in central China. Both France and England have secured privileges in southern China. America—where is she? Two great railroad lines—one between Peking and Hankow; the other between Tientsin and Chinkiang—could have been built by Americans; but notwithstanding this special opportunity European nations have pressed forward to secure these privileges for their own people. Though these great concessions may go to others, there may still be an opportunity for American materials to be used in connection therewith. This will depend on the amount of support which the United States government and American merchants give to the "open door" policy, which thus far has been advocated by the British government alone. Already many of the most energetic supporters of British interests abroad have turned from the "open door" policy to the policy of special "spheres of influence."

STORIES OF RATS.

Will Bite Off a Leg to Escape from a Trap.

George Purcell tells the Pittsburg News some stories about mining coal that are interesting. Purcell says a rat, when caught in a trap, will cut off a limb to escape. He one day caught a rat with a blacksmith's pincers. He had only time to fix the pincers on the rat's tail, but with sufficient grip to hold the rat for a time. He intended taking the rat to a feed-box in the barn, where its fighting qualities could be tested by a terrier. The rat, hanging by its tail, turned around to free itself from the pincers. Finding that the pincers were harder than its teeth it turned its attention to its own tail. It cut with its teeth a ring around the tail, and then made a jump. The skin peeled off the tail, leaving the tail covering in the grip of Purcell and the pincers. It is needless to say the rat escaped. Miners believe that rats leave a falling mine. M. W. Kerrigan met a horde of rats one day when he was entering a mine. He attempted to kill them with a stick, but as fast as he knocked one out another took his place. He was accompanied by a dog, and the dog was so badly bitten by the rats that he sought shelter behind Kerrigan. Seeing that the dog was badly injured by the attack of the rats Kerrigan took him outside the mine to have his injuries attended to. Kerrigan then returned to the workings, but was surprised to find that the entry in which he had met the rats had fallen in during his absence.

Tammany Hall.

"Tammany Ring" was formed in the city of New York so far back as 1783 as a great Democratic organization. Its founder was William Mooney, an upholsterer residing in the city. The Tammany anniversary became a popular holiday. The ideal patrons were Columbus and Tammany, the latter, who gives his name to the society, being a legendary Indian chief, once lord of the island of Manhattan, and now a kind of patron saint of America. The president rejoices in the title of "grand sachem." The "Tammany Hall" is an offset more intensely Democratic, and represents the "Democratic" Republican general committee of 5,000, who seek to govern New York and select all candidates for office. There are district committees, over whom is set a captain known as the "local boss;" he is responsible for the vote of his district. There are 1,100 of these bosses to correspond with the 1,100 districts. As a rule the bosses are "liquor dealers" with a clientele of followers whom they "swing." The boss is paid for his services, and has money to distribute. It is always easy from the reports of these 1,100 bosses to say how the vote of the city will go in municipal elections.

Daring Repair Work.

Daring repairs inside a water main were recently made at the water works in Kansas City, Mo. The threads of the valve seat in a 30-inch main had become broken, and in order to make the repairs without removing the valve it was necessary for someone to go into the pipe. To leave the main closed for the day meant to leave part of the city without protection from fire. A machinist, Charles Lunsted, volunteered to do the work. He entered the main through a 24-inch pipe and put in a new seat in about three hours. It was a cold job, as the temperature of the water had been running about 35 to 38 degrees, but hot irons were placed inside the pipe to remove the chill as much as possible. Air was let into the pipe through a pit around the valve.—Baltimore News.